



State of Wisconsin Higher Educational Aids Board

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WISCONSIN TECHNICAL EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP FACT SHEET RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS 2015-2016 ACADEMIC YEAR

INTRODUCTION

This fact sheet provides information about the Technical Excellence Scholarship (TES). It details your rights and responsibilities as a recipient of the TES. Reading, understanding, and referencing this sheet as you progress through technical college will help to ensure that you receive the TES for each semester in which you are eligible. It will also ensure that you are aware of when you are not eligible for your TES, and of when your eligibility ceases permanently.

YOU SHOULD READ THIS SHEET NOW AND KEEP IT FOR FUTURE REFERENCE.

THE SCHOLARSHIP

The TES provides \$2250 to be paid towards tuition each year for up to three years (6 semesters). The State of Wisconsin Higher Educational Aids Board pays one half of the \$2250 and the college or university pays the other half from its own funds. Each semester \$1125 is applied directly to tuition: it is not sent to the student. In rare instances when state, federal and institutional need-based assistance cover most of the cost of education, the TES may not be fully awarded.

ENROLLMENT

To receive TES, you must enroll full-time by September 30, 2015 at a participating Wisconsin Technical College to be eligible (these are listed on the back of your award letter). Institutions in the Wisconsin Technical College system participate in the TES program. **If you are not enrolled full-time** in an associate degree or certificate program at a participating technical college by September 30, 2015, **your scholarship is automatically forfeited and will be awarded to the next qualified alternate.** If your intention is to enroll full-time, but circumstances prevent it, please contact us.

Scholars must be enrolled in a two or three year program. Scholars may receive three years of TES funds when attending associate degree granting technical colleges.

If you transfer from one participating institution to another, you must notify the Higher Educational Aids Board in a letter or in an e-mail. Please include your name, the name of the institution ***from*** which you are transferring, the name of the institution ***to*** which you are transferring, and the semester or term in which the transfer takes effect. The Higher Educational Aids Board will notify the school to which you are transferring that you are receiving the TES. You, too, should notify both financial aid offices so that their files are updated to show your enrollment and TES status.

Eligibility for the TES ceases at the end of six semesters. You may receive the TES for no more than six consecutive semesters total, even if you have not graduated by the end of six semesters. In order to actually receive the TES funds in a given semester, you must be enrolled full-time in that semester in a degree or certificate program. To retain continuing eligibility for the TES, you must enroll full-time each consecutive semester. If you are not enrolled full-time each consecutive semester, you risk losing the TES permanently as well as in the given semester.

If you do not enroll at all in a given semester, or if you enroll but drop courses and go below full-time enrollment, you must contact the Higher Educational Aids Board before doing so. Not enrolling or dropping below full-time could adversely affect your continuing eligibility for the AES.

CONTINUING SCHOLAR ELIGIBILITY

- (1) In July of each year, the Higher Educational Aids Board will notify any scholars who have lost scholarship eligibility for the following academic year, due to insufficient credits or grade point average, or failure to enroll full-time. Students who have met the following requirements may assume they are eligible for the following academic year.
- (2) To receive an TES for a second year, you shall have accumulated at least 24 semester credits, or their quarterly equivalent as determined by the Higher Educational Aids Board, and have achieved a 3.000 cumulative grade point average based on a 4.000 system.
- (3) To receive an TES for a third year, you shall have accumulated at least 48 semester credits, or their quarterly equivalent as determined by the Higher Educational Aids Board, and have achieved a 3.000 cumulative grade point average based on a 4.000 system.
- (4) The Higher Educational Aids Board shall pay to the institution, on your behalf, the award for the first or second semester attendance. Awards shall not be made for summer terms or other special terms of attendance.
- (6) You must be enrolled **full-time in consecutive regular semester terms** to maintain continuing eligibility. Exceptions, such as for a medical reason, military service, religious mission, or unique educational opportunity, will be considered by the Higher Educational Aids Board on a case by case basis. You should contact the Higher Educational Aids Board directly if an exception is needed. You shall be able to regain eligibility through consecutive term enrollment, including summer session, which could bring your credits earned up to the minimum required and/or your cumulative grade point average to the cumulative minimum of 3.000.

PROGRAM INFORMATION

For information concerning the Technical Excellence Scholarship in general, or for information about your specific situation, you may contact Nancy Wilkison at the Higher Educational Aids Board at the following addresses and telephone numbers:

Always notify the Higher Educational Aids Board of changes in name, address or institution.

Higher Educational Aides Board
Nancy Wilkison, TES Coordinator
nancy.wilkison@wi.gov
608-267-2213

The Wisconsin Technical Excellence Scholarship program is governed by Section 39.415 of the statutes. The statute may be found on our website: www.heab.wi.gov

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